



Grants.gov Release 14.1 Applicant Release Notes

Version 2

Production Deployment Date: April 18, 2015

Training Deployment Date: March 30, 2015

Summary

- Applicant Enhancements
 - Global header, footer and navigation changes
 - Search Grants page components with “Open Date” label changed to “Posted Date”
 - Timestamp format changed on multiple pages
 - Clarified submission error message that appears when a user applies for an opportunity that is not yet open
 - Created new S2S Web service for retrieving "Competition Title" of an application package
 - Rejected Submissions enhancement
 - Batch processes updated to consume UTF-8 formatted SAM extract files
 - Other updates
 - Reminder of Upcoming Changes

APPLICANT ENHANCEMENTS

Global Changes to Grants.gov

- Global Banner
 - Removed the Contact Us link and the light blue vertical line to the left of the Manage Subscriptions link
 - Moved Contact Us content to Support tab on Global Navigation Menu
- Global Navigation
 - Updated the Global Navigation Menu to accommodate the addition of the “Grants Learning Center” under the Learn Grants tab.
- Global Footer
 - Changed hyperlinks for Privacy, Accessibility, and Exit Disclaimers
 - Privacy and Accessibility links previously sent users to HHS.gov Privacy and Accessibility pages

Update Global Banner

Removed the Contact Us link and the light blue vertical line to the left of the Manage Subscriptions link.



The screenshot shows the Grants.gov website with several updates. At the top, the navigation bar includes links for HOME, LEARN GRANTS, SEARCH GRANTS, APPLICANTS, GRANTORS, SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM, FORMS, OUTREACH, and SUPPORT. A search bar is located to the right of the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, there is a large banner area with the text "GRANTS.GOV SUPPORT" and a background image of customer service representatives. To the right of the banner, there is a section for "Grants.gov Updates" and a "Grants.gov Calendar".

Key changes highlighted by orange callouts:

- Removed the Contact Us link and the light blue vertical line to the left of the Manage Subscriptions link.** This refers to the top navigation bar where the "CONTACT US" link and its associated vertical line have been removed.
- Moved information on Contact Us page to the Support tab.** This refers to the "SUPPORT" tab in the navigation bar, which now contains information previously found on the "CONTACT US" page.

The "GRANTS.GOV SUPPORT" banner includes four main sections:

- Encounter an Urgent Matter? Call Us**: Contact Us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Phone: 1-800-518-4726 (local toll free). For International callers, please dial 606-545-5035 to speak with a Contact Center representative. We are closed on federal holidays. **1-800-518-4726**. Office of Personnel Management Federal Holidays »
- Have a Complex Question? Email Us**: Relax – Grants.gov is here to help. Using Grants.gov is not rocket science, but it can—at times—be daunting. Before you begin, review our training materials to learn what you need to know. support@grants.gov »
- Need Help? Look for Answers Online**: Relax – Grants.gov is here to help. Using Grants.gov is not rocket science, but it can—at times—be daunting. Before you begin, review our training materials to learn what you need to know. [Grantor Specific Information »](#), [Applicant Specific Information »](#), [Public Grant Information »](#)
- Suspect Fraud? Call our Hotline**: HHS Fraud Hotline at 1-800-447-8477. If you have been contacted by someone seeking your bank account or other personal information in order to process a government grant, Submit a Complaint with the Federal Trade Commission. If you have information regarding grant fraud specific to Department of Health and Human Services, please contact the HHS Fraud Hotline at 1-800-447-8477. [Report Grant Fraud »](#)

Replaced the About tab with the Learn Grants tab.

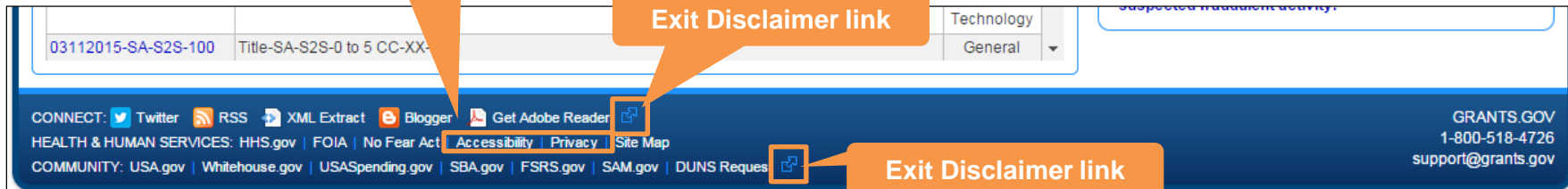
The 'Grants Learning Center' connects users to a wealth of information and resources exploring the grant lifecycle, key terminology, Federal policies, and more.

Update Links on Global Footer

Privacy and Accessibility links previously sent users to HHS.gov Privacy and Accessibility pages

Exit Disclaimer link

Exit Disclaimer link



The screenshot shows the Grants.gov global footer. At the top, there is a header area with a search bar containing '03112015-SA-S2S-100' and a dropdown menu showing 'Technology' and 'General'. Below this is a blue footer bar. On the left, it says 'CONNECT:' followed by icons for Twitter, RSS, XML Extract, Blogger, and Get Adobe Reader. Below that, it lists 'HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES: HHS.gov | FOIA | No Fear Act | Accessibility | Privacy | Site Map' and 'COMMUNITY: USA.gov | Whitehouse.gov | USASpending.gov | SBA.gov | FSRS.gov | SAM.gov | DUNS Request'. On the right, it displays 'GRANTS.GOV', '1-800-518-4726', and 'support@grants.gov'. Three orange callout boxes point to specific links: one points to 'Accessibility' and 'Privacy' in the HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES list, another points to 'Exit Disclaimer' in the COMMUNITY list, and a third points to 'Exit Disclaimer' in the COMMUNITY list.



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“Post Date” on Search Grants page

Modified the Search Grants page,
renaming synopsis “Open Date” to
“Post Date” or “Posted Date”

SEARCH GRANTS

BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA:

Keyword(s):

Funding Opportunity Number:

CFDA Number:

OPPORTUNITY STATUS:

☒ Posted (885)

☐ Closed (957)

☐ Archived (8,695)

SORT BY: Posted Date (Descending)

DATE RANGE: Posted - Last 3 Days (18)

[Search Tips](#) | [Export Results](#)

1 - 25 OF 885 MATCHING RESULTS:

Funding Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Posted Date	Close Date
03102015-SA-20	Title- #2;#3;#2;#3;#2;#3;#8;@çø-	General Dynamics Information Technology	03/11/2015	03/11/2016
03102015-SA-EMAIL-21	Title-03102015-SA-EMAIL--yüpÿðê--21	General Dynamics Information Technology	03/11/2015	
		General	03/11/2015	03/09/2016

Page components affected include the following: Opportunity Status checkbox array, Sort By dropdown menu, Date Range dropdown menu, Posted Date column header, and Export results (in the exported Excel file)

Timestamp Format Change

- The modified timestamp format appears on the following pages and content:
 - Under Date/Time Received and Status Date columns of the Track My Application page
 - Under Date/Time Received and Status Date columns of the My Recently Submitted Applications grid
 - Under Date/Time Received and Status Date columns of the Check My Application Status results grid
 - Under Date/Time Received and Status Date columns of the Check Application Status for Organization results grid
 - On the submission timestamp footer of the flat PDF (from the downloaded application Zip file)
 - On Rejection Notice emails (PDF, S2S V0, V1, and V2.0)
 - On Submission Receipt emails (PDF, S2S V1 and V2.0)
 - In exported data files

Timestamp Format Change

GRANTS.GOV > Applicants > Check Application Status


CHECK APPLICATION STATUS

[Download Application](#)

Only applications in the following statuses can be downloaded:

- Validated
- Received by Agency
- Agency Tracking Number Assigned

To download the Grantor view of the submitted application, please select the desired row and click the "Download Application" button.

Export Data 

Search By

CFDA

Sort By

Grants.gov #

Ascending Descending

Search

Results:

1-25 of 961 Records

Awarding Agency	AOR Name	CFDA	Opportunity Number	Comp. ID	Grants.gov #	Date/Time Received	Status	Status Date	Agency Tracking # and Notes	Submit
			V-1	08182014-KV-BUD	GRANT10586927	Oct 10, 2014 10:59:37 AM EDT	Validated	Oct 10, 2014 11:00:18 AM EDT		R&R B

The new timestamp format appears as follows:
Mmm DD, YYYY HH:MM:SS
<AM/PM> <EDT/EST>, as seen on the Check Application Status page results in the Date/Time Received and Status Date columns.

Submission Error Message

Clarified the existing error message that appears when a submission is received for an application package with an open date in the future. It now reads, "You have applied for an opportunity package with an open date in the future. Submissions are only accepted for open opportunity packages."

REASON FOR REJECTING THE SUBMISSION

[Return to Search Results](#)

Errors for GRANT10588800

You have applied for an opportunity package with an open date in the future. Submissions are only accepted for open opportunity packages.

New Web Service for S2S

- Created a new Web service allowing applicants to retrieve the "Competition Title" of an application package through S2S
 - This service returns a collection of objects for all open opportunities
 - This service allows applicants to filter the request using the following Input Parameters:
 - FundingOpportunityNumber
 - CFDA Number
 - CompetitionID

Rejected Submissions Enhancement

- Modified application submission processing so that submission-related data, such as agency and Funding Opportunity Number, is retrieved and stored earlier in the process.
- This enhancement ensures that applications rejected moments after submission will appear in Track My Application, and in the applicable Grantor and Applicant pages and reports.



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Change SAM interface to use new UTF-8 files

- Updated Grants.gov daily and monthly batch processes to consume UTF-8 formatted SAM extract files

Other Updates

- Trimmed leading and trailing spaces from all user fields when registration information is submitted
- Allowed existing users to log on with a username with “%” character and a two-digit hex number.
- Modified the RSS feed to resolve the issue caused by synopsis descriptions with non-readable characters.
- Modified the XML extract file creation process to resolve the issue caused by extended ASCII characters.
- Removed all the hardcoded hyperlinks to the Glossary page.
- Implemented various security enhancements to maintain system ATO

Reminder of Upcoming Changes

AFFECTED USERS	CHANGE DESCRIPTION
Effective Date: January 1, 2016 <i>(Note: No waivers permitted)</i>	
Grantor S2S, Applicant S2S	Port 446 Disablement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port 446 will no longer be available in any environment • Port 443 will continue to only support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHA-2 Certificates • TLS v1.1 and TLS v1.2
Grantor S2S, Applicant S2S	S2S Versions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S2S V0 and V1 end points are being discontinued. • S2S V2 will be the only end point supported.
Grantors, Applicants, Grantor S2S, Applicant S2S	Old Training (AT07) Environment URLs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The old Training (AT07) URLs will no longer be rerouted to the new URLs